



February 7, 2007

Ms. Tracie Billington
Department of Water Resources
Division of Planning and Assistance
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Ms. Shahla Farahnak
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Financial Assistance
1001 "I" Street, 16th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Comments on Additional Grant Awards for the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grant Program

Dear Ms. Billington and Ms. Farahnak:

I would like to express my strong support for the State to fund additional proposals from among the IRWM Step 2 applicants of the implementation grants process.

The City of Redwood City (City) receives 100% of its potable water from the San Francisco regional water system, operated by the San Francisco Utilities Commission (SFPUC). Since 1998, the City has exceeded its SFPUC contractual supply assurance of 12,243 acre-feet/year (AFY) by an average of 780 AFY. This has been possible only because other contractors have not taken delivery of their full entitlements. In January 2002, the City Council set broad community priorities including at the top of the list, the goal to "erase contractual supply assurance overdraft by 2010" and to "implement a water recycling project". To achieve these goals, the City implemented an aggressive water conservation program, and in August 2003 the City Council approved a broadly-defined and flexible recycled water project.

The Redwood City Recycled Water Project (Project) consists of construction of treatment, pumping, storage, and pipeline distribution facilities. The Project facilities are sized to accommodate future expansion of the system. The near-term Project goal is to provide 900 acre-feet per year (AFY) of offset potable use by 2010, rising to a projected 1,600 to 2,000 AFY of offset by 2015. Implementation of the Project is planned to occur in phases, with construction of the treatment, storage, pumping and some distribution pipelines occurring now, and construction of additional pipelines planned over the next three years. The Project will begin delivering recycled water in the spring of 2007 to customers located along the completed pipelines. Funding from the IRWM grant will accelerate construction of pipelines to sooner reduce the City's demand on the SFPUC's regional water system.

Completion of the Bay Area IRWM Plan is a significant step towards achieving the State's goal of regional cooperation to provide water supply and water quality benefits to multiple communities. The Bay Area Step 2 proposal includes 15 projects that if implemented will improve water supply and water quality in the region. However, local resources are already stretched to continue the necessary functional responsibilities and it is increasingly difficult to justify additional expenditures on regional projects. I strongly encourage the State to consider the benefits and importance of these projects to the region and to reward a larger portion of the remaining Proposition 50 funds to the Bay Area.

Ms. Billington and Ms. Farahnak
Comments on Additional Grant Awards for the IRWM Grant Program
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Thank you for your consideration and your valuable contributions in implementing the IRWM Program. Please contact me or Peter Ingram if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Everett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ed" being more prominent.

Ed Everett
City Manager

Copy: Peter Ingram, Community Development Director / Recycled Water Project Manager